

REMARKS

Claims 3-6, 8-11, and 14-23 are pending. Claims 3, 6, and 8-10 are amended. Claims 1, 2, 7, 12, and 13 are canceled. Claims 14-23 are added. Support for the amendments and new claims may be found on at least page 8, lines 1-12; page 8, line 24, to page 9, line 30; and page 16, line 5, to page 18, line 32. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

I. Examiner Interview

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesies extended in the telephone interview on May 5, 2006. The Examiner agreed that the above amendments to claims 3, 6, and 8-10 overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and place claims 3-6 and 8-11 in condition for allowance. The Examiner agreed to perform an update search and, more particularly, to consider new claims 14-23.

II. Claim Objections

The Office objects to claims 1-11 because of informalities. More specifically, the Office Action states that claim 1 does not make sense, because the claim recites that a cache coherency controller can determine a priority receipt status of a transaction request received from itself over a high speed bus. Claim 3 is amended to incorporate the features of claim 1, on which it depended in its originally filed form. Claim 3 is also amended to overcome the objection.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to the claims.

III. 35 U.S.C. § 112, Alleged Indefiniteness of Claims 1-11

The Office rejects claims 1-11 as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that Applicant regards as the invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 3 is amended to incorporate limitations previously presented in claim 1, on which claim 3 depended in its original form. Claims 3, 6, and 8-10 are amended to provide clear antecedent basis for the limitations in the claims.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

IV. Allowable Subject Matter, Claims 3-6 and 8-11

The Office Action indicates that claims 3-5 and 8-11 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 3 is amended to incorporate limitations previously presented in claim 1, on which claim 3 depended in its original form. Claim 3 is now in independent form. Claim 6 is amended to depend from claim 3. Claims 1, 2, 7, 12, and 13 are canceled. Claims 3, 6, and 8-10 are also amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Therefore, Applicant submits that claims 3-6 and 8-11 are now allowable.

V. New Claims 14-23

New independent claims 14 and 19 recite limitations not taught or suggested by the cited prior art. More particularly, the cited prior art fails to teach or suggest performing a burst transfer on a bus with cache coherency where a processor initiates a burst transfer command that requests to access a block of data that comprises two or more cachelines, where each given processor within the plurality of processors performs a cache snoop of the burst transfer command to form a burst snoop response, and where a snoop response gathering function accumulates burst snoop responses for the two or more cachelines from the plurality of processors to form a combined snoop response and broadcasts the combined snoop response to the plurality of processors.

Dependent claims 15-18 and 20-23 recite further combinations of features not taught or suggested by the prior art. For instance, claims 15 and 20 recite responsive to a plurality of transfer commands requesting to access a plurality of sequential cachelines from a plurality of entities within the initiating processor, a gathering function within the initiating processor accumulates the plurality of transfer commands to form the burst

transfer command. Claims 16 and 21 recite responsive to receipt of the combined snoop response at the initiating processor, a separation function within the initiating processor separates the combined snoop response into a plurality of individual snoop responses and forwards the plurality of individual snoop responses to the pluralities of entities within the initiating processor. Claims 17 and 22 recites a separation function within a snooping processor within the plurality of processors splits the burst transfer command into a plurality of single cacheline requests and forwards the plurality of single cacheline requests to a plurality of entities within the snooping processor and each entity within the snooping processor performs a cache snoop of each of the plurality of single cacheline requests to form a plurality of single cacheline snoop responses. Claims 18 and 23 recite a gathering function within the snooping processor accumulates the plurality of single cacheline snoop responses to form a burst snoop response for the snooping processor.

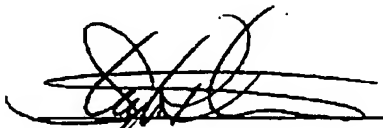
Therefore, Applicant submits that new claims 14-23 are allowable over the prior art of record.

VI. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Stephen R. Tkacs
Reg. No. 46,430
WALDER INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW, P.C.
P.O. Box 832745
Richardson, TX 75083
(214) 722-6422
AGENT FOR APPLICANT